



**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
DIRECTORATE OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT, JAMMU**

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**TOP 10 POULTRY HEALTH TIPS**

**1. Have an isolation / quarantine area**

A separate barn or separate room in your barn, ideally with a separate entrance, is prescribed to isolate new birds for 30 days before introducing them to your existing flock or quickly isolate any sick birds and put them into the quarantine area to limit the spread of disease to other birds.

**2. Inspect your flock daily**

All healthy birds are active, bright and alert and will move out of the way when you enter the barn. Sick birds are unlikely to eat their feed, and are more likely to stay in one spot, looking depressed and sleepy.

**3. Disinfecting is different than cleaning**

Your barn should be cleaned regularly, but should also be disinfected before introducing a new group of birds to the barn. Disinfectants cannot kill bacteria until all the organic materials (feces, litter, mud, feathers) have been washed away.

**4. Clean your barns regularly**

Remove soiled, wet, or packed bedding as wet bedding can lead to fungal growth causing various diseases. Before introducing a new flock to your barn, wash all surfaces with warm soapy water and rinse to clean away organic materials and then spray the surfaces with a disinfectant such as 10% bleach water.

**5. Have a “clean period” between flocks**

Follow “all-in, all-out” system to reduce the chance of introducing disease. Do not add new birds to an existing flock—treat each flock as a separate group, and replace the entire flock at the same time.

**6. Change food and water every day and keep feed and water containers clean**

Do not add fresh feed to feeders that are caked with old food and/or feces without cleaning the feeders first. Wash and disinfect waterers regularly.

**7. Feed the right food**

Poultry diet requirements depend on the age of birds and the stage of production. Feed appropriate diet for the types of birds you are raising. Correct calcium/phosphorus balance in feed is essential for growing birds and layers. Grains must be balanced with minerals and supplements. Always provide plenty of fresh water for your birds.

**8. Slaughter your birds with care**

Designate a clean, well-drained, and free of pests and trash site for slaughter and processing poultry. People who are processing poultry should wash their hands often during processing and wear clean clothes and boots.

**9. Do not let wildlife near your birds**

Wild birds can carry diseases that will make your birds sick (such as avian influenza and Newcastle's disease). Use wire fences and electric fence outriggers to keep predators away from your flock.

**10. Keep good records**

Records on flock health allow you to better understand or recognize changes in your flock. Keep records on number of birds, their origin, when new birds are introduced and their source flock, how many die each week, how many eggs are produced each day, who you have sold birds or products to and any visitors to your barns, for tracking movements in case of a disease outbreak.